

Office activity was blocked by the Palestine
"row" the
low that is to say arising out of the White
Paper of 1930
(cmd 3962) For the fact that there was a row,
neither Lord
Passfield, nor this particular White Paper, were
really respon-
sible. Any White Paper, any statement of British
policy in
Palestine, was bound to produce something of
the kind,
since it must re-state a position in which the
British Govern-
ment is attempting to satisfy conflicting claims
that cannot,
in the nature of the case, be satisfied. This was
a fact that
might have been more fully realised by the
Prime Minister
when, in 1930, he pressed the Colonial
Secretary to issue a
statement of British policy.

The Palestine Mandate, based as it is on
the famous
Balfour Declaration of 1917, is a compromise
document,
both are typical products of the Lloyd George
regime. They
try to combine the substance of incompatible
promises made
to the Jews and to the Arabs, during the War.
The Jews
expected Palestine as a National Home. What
the Declara-
tion and the Mandate gave them was a
National Home in
Palestine. The Arabs wanted full autonomy,
or, at least, a
Mandatory relation resembling that of Iraq,
leading on to
independence. What they got in the Mandate
was a series
of qualifications to each concession therein
made to Jewish
claims, a recurrent proviso to the effect that
the rights and
privileges of the Arabs were to be respected.
Here was a
dilemma incapable of solution by
administrative action.
The Jews, fortified by funds contributed

largely from the
United States, brought into Palestine
numbers of their
hapless unemployed nationals from Eastern
European countries, as well as Zionist idealists, from all parts,
eager to take
part in the rebuilding of the ancient heritage
of their faith
To settle these immigrants, the Jewish
authorities bought
up large tracts of land The Arabs thereupon
protested that
opportunities for their natural expansion and
development
were being filched from them, and that the
land which is